

Welfare Meetings

Eliz

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T

26-Nov-1996 10:48am

TO: Claudia M. Rayford-Williams

FROM: Jeremy D. Benami
 Domestic Policy Council

CC: Carol H. Rasco
CC: Diana M. Fortuna

SUBJECT: White House staff welfare meeting

Claudia:

for the 12/2 5:00 meeting, this is the invite list I would now recommend:

OMB	Raines Apfel Min
DPC	Rasco Ben-Ami Fortuna Reed
NEC	Tyson Sperling
FLOTUS	Verveer
VPOTUS	Klain Kamarck
Leg	Hilley
IG	Hale Bromberg
Couns	Quinn Kagan
COS	Bowles

This is the text of the reminder notice:

On Monday December 2nd, there will be a senior White House staff meeting to review the status of welfare implementation and to discuss the next steps being taken in the budget and policy processes. At this meeting, we will review the current status of budget discussions regarding welfare issues, the development of the welfare to work initiative and the status of key implementation issues. Later in the week, we will have the first principals meeting with agency heads to review the welfare issues in the budget.

Please review both the invite list and the reminder notice with Carol.

Carol: I know the list is long, but I would still recommend that all of these folks be invited. There are in fact more that would want to come, but I would try to make it with just these folks.

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T

26-Nov-1996 06:41pm

TO: Carol H. Rasco
FROM: Jeremy D. Benami
Domestic Policy Council
CC: Elizabeth E. Drye
CC: Diana M. Fortuna
SUBJECT: 12/5 welfare meeting

I have forwarded to Claudia a list of people for the Principals meeting on welfare and the budget. While Ken and I have agreed on the meeting, I have not been able to reach Gene.

I would recommend that the agenda for the Secretaries meeting that you and Laura are chairing run something like the following:

I. Overview of Implementation Process	Rasco (5 minutes)
II. Status of Welfare to Work mins)	Tyson/Reed (10
III. Overview of Budget Issues mins)	Raines/Apfel (45

This would be a meeting at which the general picture would be laid out for the principles and a rough sense given of the scope of the options and choices we face. The following week would be a decision meeting on what options to forward to the President.

Please let me know if this is OK.

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T

26-Nov-1996 06:43pm

TO: Carol H. Rasco
FROM: Jeremy D. Benami
Domestic Policy Council
CC: Elizabeth E. Drye
CC: Diana M. Fortuna
SUBJECT: 12/2 welfare meeting

I understand from Claudia that you were ok with the outline of the WH meeting on the 2nd, and I saw that the notice went out.

I will do an agenda first thing Monday morning to show you at the staff meeting.

I will work with Gene, Bruce and Ken on Monday to plan for a smooth meeting.

As far as 12/5, I will talk to you about your reactions to that on Monday morning, and perhaps you and Laura will have a chance to talk about that as well.

Have a great Thanksgiving and a great weekend.

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T

26-Nov-1996 10:39am

TO: Carol H. Rasco

FROM: Jeremy D. Benami
Domestic Policy Council

CC: Diana M. Fortuna
CC: Claudia M. Rayford-Williams

SUBJECT: welfare meetings next week

Carol --

I have spoken to Ken and Diana this morning, but not yet to Gene (tho I have a message in to him). This is what I would recommend on meetings for next week:

Mon Dec 2nd 5:00 -- this is the WH senior staff meeting. I would still strongly recommend this meeting. I would add a couple more to the invite list (Hilley, FLOTUS staff - Verveer?). I would use that as an opportunity to lay out for everyone the three tracks that welfare work is moving on --

- (a) budget
- (b) implementation
- (c) development of welfare to work package

I would recommend reviewing the timelines, the process and beginning to discuss assumptions about legislative timelines as well -- for instance, will there be a package of policy "fixes" sent up in late January? (Ken thinks yes.) When will the Welfare to work package go up? Will that be a bill or just specs?

If this is OK with you, I will develop an agenda for that meeting along those lines. I am also sending Claudia both a revised list of invitees and text for a reminder notice.

Thursday December 5 -- I would recommend using the meeting you and Laura have called for 11:30 to provide the principals with an overview of the welfare issues in the budget and a preliminary outline of the options that will be on the table in the budget discussion. I will also send Claudia a list of those to invite to this meeting if you agree with this direction. She will have to work with the NEC to ensure that their budget principals are all included.

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T

26-Nov-1996 06:36pm

TO: Claudia M. Rayford-Williams

FROM: Jeremy D. Benami
 Domestic Policy Council

CC: Carol H. Rasco
CC: Elizabeth E. Drye
CC: Diana M. Fortuna

SUBJECT: 12/5 Welfare meeting

As I indicated in an earlier email today, Ken and I agree that the 12/5 meeting should provide an opportunity for welfare and budget principals to get briefed on the general outline of the budget issues in the welfare world -- and a first look at some of the options that have been put on the table.

Gene did not get back to me so I will have to assume that he is OK with what Ken and I want to do. My suggestion is to alter the invite list slightly. We should definitely have:

Panetta
Bowles
Raines
Rasco
Tyson
Stiglitz
Rubin
Shalala
Glickman
Chater

Please check with Carol on what other DPC secretaries need to be included (Riley, Reich, Cisneros, Reno?)

Please check with Gene on what other NEC Budget types need to be included.

Then please notify any offices who no longer need to come or now need to be invited of the change. Thanks!

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 25, 1996

TO: Leon Panetta
Erskine Bowles

FR: Carol H. Rasco 
Assistant to the President
for Domestic Policy

RE: Welfare Reform meeting with Secretaries

When the assignment of welfare reform implementation was given as a lead role to the Domestic Policy Council, we initiated a series of regular meetings within the administration and with key outside groups. One set of those meetings is a bi-weekly one to which a designee from each of the following departments is invited: OMB, HHS, USDA, SSA, INS, Treasury, Justice, Commerce, Labor, SBA, Education, HUD and appropriate White House Divisions.

We recently reached a point where we felt that despite a number of impending cabinet vacancies we must move ahead with a meeting of the Secretaries/Directors of these departments/agencies. I asked Laura Tyson to join me in calling the meeting on December 5 at 11:30 a.m. in the Roosevelt Room as the primary agenda item will be the jobs program.

As the new year approaches and the state legislatures begin to meet, there will be a great deal of national debate and therefore media coverage on the approaches to welfare reform being debated by the states. The Federal Government must be more ready than ever to be available for technical assistance and guidance as appropriate as well as engaged in a coordinated manner among the White House and Departments as to implementation.

I invite you to join us in that meeting on Dec. 5 to add your endorsement of the need to have all departments highly engaged in the successful implementation of this signature Presidential initiative.

We will also include a briefing on the SSI issue regarding the definition of disabled children at the end of the meeting for those who wish to participate in that part. If you have questions do not hesitate to contact me. We will forward an agenda to you when it is prepared; if either of you would like to have a listed time to speak on the agenda please let me know. We would welcome your participation.

Thank you.

cc: Laura Tyson

Cc: Elizabeth Dry
Tom O'Donnell

Dec. 5th letter
attached.

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T

13-Nov-1996 02:26pm

TO: Thomas O'Donnell
TO: Elizabeth E. Drye

FROM: Carol H. Rasco
 Domestic Policy Council

CC: Dena B. Weinstein
CC: Jill Pizzuto

SUBJECT: Welfare meeting

Tom, per our conversation earlier today in regard to the internal meeting that needs to be held prior to the welfare reform meeting Laura and I will hold with the Secretaries on Dec. 5, I recommend after talking with staff that the following be invited to a meeting Laura and I will host on Dec. 2 in the time slot (or some other time slot on the 2nd) originally allocated as an option for the Secretaries' meeting:

Laura

me

Gene

Bruce

Jeremy

Frank Raines and Ken Apfel

Erksine

Ron Klain

McCaffery (substance abuse is a much bigger factor in welfare reform than many want to admit)

Points I would stress/include in a cover memo which I will leave to you and Elizabeth to finalize are:

+This internal meeting is being called as a prelude to the Dec. 5 meeting of cabinet officials who need to be closely involved in welfare reform in order to discuss the work to date on welfare reform as well as the work to be done as we move forward.

+We are asking Bruce, Gene, Ken and Jeremy to prepare an agenda with a proposal or options for moving a collaborative implementation into the next phase with an emphasis on the welfare - to - work area.

I believe this memo needs to go out with the invitation for Dec. 5 to those listed above and at the same time the Dec. 5 invitation go to remainder of cabinet members to be invited so we can get all

this on folks schedule.

DRAFT

November 13, 1996

cc: Eliz. DRYE
Tom O'Donnell

MEMORANDUM TO:

SECRETARY ROBERT E. RUBIN
ATTORNEY JANET RENO
SECRETARY DANIEL R. GLICKMAN
SECRETARY MICHAEL KANTOR
SECRETARY ROBERT B. REICH
SECRETARY DONNA E. SHALALA
SECRETARY HENRY G. CISNEROS
SECRETARY RICHARD W. RILEY
ADMINISTRATOR CAROL M. BROWNER
DIRECTOR FRANKLIN RAINES
DIRECTOR BARRY R. McCaffrey
ADMINISTRATOR PHILIP LADER
CHAIRMAN JOSEPH STIGLITZ

FROM: Carol H. Rasco
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

Laura D'Andrea Tyson
Assistant to the President for Economic Policy

SUBJECT: Interagency Welfare Reform Meeting

The successful implementation of the welfare reform bill is one of the President's highest priorities for the second term. As you all know, its success will require the cooperation and engagement of all of your agencies, not just those with direct programmatic responsibility for administering benefit programs.

Over the past two months, there have been regular biweekly meetings at the White House that have brought all of your agencies together. These meetings have allowed us to keep up to date on the early implementation issues that have arisen and to get a better sense of the scope of responsibilities of each agency under the bill.

In December, we would like to meet with Cabinet members to discuss possible interagency initiatives in this important area. We would be interested in your agency's bold and proactive ideas and hope to use the time for productive brainstorming about interagency cooperation.

The meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 5th at 4:00p.m. (TBA ROOSEVELT ROOM - 1.5 hour meeting?)

We would appreciate a response regarding your attendance by (November 29th?). Please have your schedulers RSVP to Jill Pizzuto or Claudia Rayford-Williams at (202) 456-5565.

cc: Leon Panetta
Erskine Bowles
Ron Klain

DRAFT

Oct 28
-Ann

Jeremy

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

13-Nov-1996 02:26pm

TO: Thomas O'Donnell
TO: Elizabeth E. Drye

FROM: Carol H. Rasco
Domestic Policy Council

CC: Dena B. Weinstein
CC: Jill Pizzuto

SUBJECT: Welfare meeting

① 2nd
② 5th - meeting memo draft.

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McCaffery (substance abuse is a much bigger factor in welfare reform than many want to admit)

Points I would stress/include in a cover memo which I will leave to you and Elizabeth to finalize are:

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+We are asking Bruce, Gene, Ken and Jeremy to prepare an agenda with a proposal or options for moving a collaborative implementation into the next phase with an emphasis on the welfare - to - work area.

I believe this memo needs to go out with the invitation for Dec. 5 to those listed above and at the same time the Dec. 5 invitation go to remainder of cabinet members to be invited so we can get all this on folks schedule.

Let me know if I can provide any clarification.

Thanks.

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T

12-Nov-1996 12:00pm

TO: Diana M. Fortuna

FROM: Carol H. Rasco
 Domestic Policy Council

CC: Jeremy D. Benami
CC: Elizabeth E. Drye

SUBJECT: Thursday meetings on welfare reform

I hate to announce with certainty at this point that we are switching and having fewer meetings as it is clearer and clearer by the day we need these departments more on board.

I would leave it to you all to decide what to do about this Thursday since I will be gone. Then two weeks after that is Thanksgiving which obviously means we will not meet. I had already set up something for the 5th that interferes since it was not a regular every two week slot...

Therefore, for now I would suggest you all meet this Thursday if you feel you can make it productive. We should then target Dec. 12 as the only meeting in December and that should be announced now.

I would like to add the drug office to the Thursday group as I feel it is such a critical problem and I would suggest we build part of the agenda on the 12th around what the various agencies can bring to the table in looking at the substance abuse problem as we face welfare reform. We should think creatively about another topic that brings in some of the departments that have not had much to say like Commerce, Labor, SBA. I would suggest you work with Bruce and Gene about a part of the meeting on jobs issue.

Perhaps if we could learn enough about the Marriott program I keep hearing about it would be worth having them talk with this group...other outside groups you can think about?

=====

On the NGA, NCSL, APWA meetings:

I would suggest we ask tomorrow if we can agree to cancel the day before Thanksgiving. Also, for Dec. we should ask about dates now...I would think we might cancel the 4th due to Partnerships meeting, 11th as APWA will be in Phoenix so it might be we agree to Dec. 18 for December or pick a day besides WEd. for one of

those weeks and then start back up in Jan. This should be an agenda item for tomorrow. I also understand a group of governors will meet during their meeting in Atlanta this week with some human resource directors of their corporate fellows group and discuss: What can governors do to help business receive better prepared workers and what can business contribute to this effort. I need for one of you to ask Susan Golonka if NGA would be willing to report on that meeting at next week's Wed. session (I'll be out of town but slight possibility I might at least phone in....not sure yet if that is the day I will be visiting a welfare to work program in Little Rock). On tomorrow's agenda we should have a time for any of us who attended last week's meeting on substance abusers and welfare reform to give impressions ... might ask Elaine since APWA a co-sponsor to lead off the discussion with the recommendations made at end of meeting; Susan was also there...maybe others from those groups.

Finally, I did talk with Elaine, Susan and Sid at the seminar last week about possibly having a meeting with Exec. Directors present in Dec. where we talk not about detail as we do each week but some big picture items....once we know the outlook for meetings in Dec. we can decide about this.

Thanks.

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T

12-Nov-1996 01:06pm

TO: Jill Pizzuto

FROM: Jeremy D. Benami
 Domestic Policy Council

CC: Diana M. Fortuna
CC: Carol H. Rasco
CC: Elizabeth E. Drye

SUBJECT: memo re welfare reform

JILL: Please use the following language in drafting a memo from Carol and Laura to the Secretaries of the agencies that attend our welfare reform meeting. You should also (per Carol's note) include a response sheet providing options for times that work on both Carol and Laura's calendar. I will leave that to you and Dena to work out.

Here goes:

TO: . . .

FROM: Carol Rasco
 Laura Tyson

SUBJECT: Interagency Welfare Reform Meeting

The successful implementation of the welfare reform bill is one of the President's highest priorities for the second term. As you all know, its success will require the cooperation and engagement of all of your agencies, not just those with direct programmatic responsibility for administering benefit programs.

Over the past two months, there have been regular biweekly meetings at the White House that have brought all of your agencies together. These meetings have allowed us to keep up to date on the early implementation issues that have arisen and to get a better sense of the scope of responsibilities of each agency under the bill.

In early December, we would like to meet with Cabinet members to discuss possible interagency initiatives in this important area. We would be interested in your agency's bold and proactive ideas

and hope to use the time for productive brainstorming about interagency cooperation.

Please have your staff fill out the . . . [Jill please write this section as appropriate]

Carol: does this look OK to you?

be finalized necessarily before we leave here for Corpus I also know these press folks like to know early that there is the possibility so it can be on their planning sheets.

I'll leave this in your hands unless anything I need to do...also I will ask Jill to put on trip briefing time on Tuesday the 12 in the a.m. if possible so there will be plenty of time to do further work if needed. At that trip meeting Claudia should be prepared to go over with us all possible leads on press. I think we will need to work hard to impress strongly upon her the reversion to pre-convention period where we push HARD on press coverage/interviews/etc.

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T

13-Nov-1996 10:10am

TO: Carol H. Rasco

FROM: Jeremy D. Benami
Domestic Policy Council

CC: Diana M. Fortuna
CC: Jill Pizzuto
CC: Elizabeth E. Drye

SUBJECT: RE: Welfare meeting

I agree an interagency process is critical.

I see two primary areas where we have MAJOR work to do in the coming two months:

(1) We have to get critical decisions made on the "fix" and the budget implications for SSI kids, transitional Medicaid, Food Stamps, etc. and

(2) We have to get the economic development/job development linkages made and have to get our welfare to work package together.

I am concerned that these particular meetings can't meet either of these needs so instead become report out and status sessions that don't "advance the ball."

And, frankly, as I am sure you would agree, these meetings are not the place to make decisions like (1) and they don't have the right people to have the discussion (2) requires.

I think the Secretaries' meeting is critical to getting #2 on track. Somehow, the Bruce/Gene/OMB process needs to be folded in with your meetings -- and we need to tie in the CEB people and some of the others who do economic development.

In brainstorming when you get back, we must have Gene, Bruce and Ken involved for this to be productive - and maybe Elaine or someone from the VP's office.

I would be happy to work with Jill to set up a meeting like this with the appropriate players if you agree - prior to Dec 2nd.